

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

5

1. An apparatus for fusing toner with a sheet, comprising:

an electricity storage device;

a heating unit configured to generate heat
10 based on electric power supplied from said
electricity storage device;

a fusing member configured to fuse the toner with the sheet through heat applied by said heating unit; and

15 a control unit which changes a rated power of said heating unit.

20

2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said heating unit includes a plurality of heating units, and said control unit provides first couplings between said heating units and said
25 electricity storage device in a first operation mode

and second couplings between said heating units and said electricity storage device in a second operation mode.

5

3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 2,
wherein the first operation mode corresponds to a
10 time period when said fusing member is heated from a
temperature with no heat applied by said heating
unit to a temperature suitable for fusing of the
toner, and the second operation mode corresponds to
a time period when heat is deprived from said fusing
15 member by the sheet.

20 4. The apparatus as claimed in claim 2,
wherein said heating units are connected in parallel
in the first operation mode, and are connected in
series in the second operation mode.

25

5. The apparatus as claimed in claim 2,
wherein all said heating units receive the electric
power in the first operation mode, and at least one
but not all of said heating units receives the
electric power in the second operation mode.

10

6. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said electricity storage device is a
capacitor.

15

7. An apparatus for fusing toner with a
sheet, comprising:

a heating unit configured to generate
heat;
a fusing member configured to fuse the
toner with the sheet through heat provided by said
heating unit; and

a control unit which controls said heating unit to generate a controlled quantity of heat, which is a first quantity in a first operation mode and is switched between a second quantity and a 5 third quantity in a second operation mode, the first quantity being larger than the second quantity that is larger than the third quantity.

10

8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said heating unit includes a first heating unit that receives electric power from a commercial 15 AC power supply and a second heating unit that receives electric power from an electricity storage device.

20

9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the first operation mode corresponds to a time period when said fusing member is heated from a 25 temperature with no heat provided by said heating

unit to a temperature suitable for fusing of the toner, and the second operation mode corresponds to a time period when heat is deprived from said fusing member by the sheet.

5

10. An apparatus for forming an image,
10 comprising:

an electrophotography unit configured to create a toner image through electrophotography and transfer the toner image onto a sheet; and

15 a fuser configured to fuse toner of the toner image with the sheet, wherein said fuser includes:

an electricity storage device;

a heating unit configured to generate heat based on electric power supplied from said 20 electricity storage device;

a fusing member configured to fuse the toner with the sheet through heat applied by said heating unit; and

25 a control unit which changes a rated power of said heating unit.

5 11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10,
wherein said heating unit includes a plurality of
heating units, and said control unit provides first
couplings between said heating units and said
electricity storage device in a first operation mode
10 and second couplings between said heating units and
said electricity storage device in a second
operation mode.

15

12. The apparatus as claimed in claim 11,
wherein the first operation mode corresponds to a
time period when said fusing member is heated from a
20 temperature with no heat applied by said heating
unit to a temperature suitable for fusing of the
toner, and the second operation mode corresponds to
a time period when heat is deprived from said fusing
member by the sheet.

25

13. The apparatus as claimed in claim 11,
5 wherein said heating units are connected in parallel
in the first operation mode, and are connected in
series in the second operation mode.

10

14. The apparatus as claimed in claim 11,
wherein all said heating units receive the electric
power in the first operation mode, and at least one
15 but not all of said heating units receives the
electric power in the second operation mode.

20

15. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10,
wherein said electricity storage device is a
capacitor.

25

16. An apparatus for forming an image,
comprising:

5 an electrophotography unit configured to
create a toner image through electrophotography and
transfer the toner image onto a sheet; and

10 a fuser configured to fuse toner of the
toner image with the sheet, wherein said fuser
includes:

 a heating unit configured to generate
heat;

15 a fusing member configured to fuse the
toner with the sheet through heat provided by said
heating unit; and

20 a control unit which controls said heating
unit to generate a controlled quantity of heat,
which is a first quantity in a first operation mode
and is switched between a second quantity and a
third quantity in a second operation mode, the first
quantity being larger than the second quantity that
is larger than the third quantity.

17. The apparatus as claimed in claim 16,
wherein said heating unit includes a first heating
unit that receives electric power from a commercial
5 AC power supply and a second heating unit that
receives electric power from an electricity storage
device.

10

18. The apparatus as claimed in claim 17,
wherein the first operation mode corresponds to a
time period when said fusing member is heated from a
15 temperature with no heat provided by said heating
unit to a temperature suitable for fusing of the
toner, and the second operation mode corresponds to
a time period when heat is deprived from said fusing
member by the sheet.

20

19. An apparatus for fusing toner with a
25 sheet, comprising:

an electricity storage device;
heating means for generating heat based on
electric power supplied from said electricity
storage device;

5 a fusing member configured to fuse the
toner with the sheet through heat applied by said
heating unit; and

means for changing a rated power of said
heating means.